Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* They will be paid according to the rank they hold. A Lieutenent is started on 450, Captains 650, Major 900 Lieut. Colonel 1,400 and upwards and Colonels 2,000 rupees.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Has any one of our doctors risen to the highest ranks.

Mr. President: I can say that they are not barred.

MEDICAL INSPECTION STAFF

40. Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the date on which the Medical Inspection Staff was instituted;
(*b*) the department to which it was attached;
(*c*) the department to which it is at present attached;
(*d*) the reasons for the change;
(*e*) whether at the time of its institution the staff was put up by fresh recruitment or recruitment from the Medical Department;
(*f*) whether Government are aware that the Medical Inspection Staff has been abolished in British India recently?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):*

(*a*) In Edavam 1105.
(*b*) Medical and Sanitary Department.
(*c*) Public Health Department.
(*d*) Bifurcation of the Sanitary department from the Medical.
(*e*) Fresh Recruitment.
(*f*) No information.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether there was any objection in retaining the medical inspection staff with the Medical Department itself.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* There were reasons.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know them.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* It was suggested by the Director of Public Health that the medical inspection of schools was essentially the work of the Public Health Department. I looked into the matter and found that he was really right and that this was the system obtaining in the major provinces of India. I recommended to the Government that the suggestion may be adopted.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Strictly speaking does it not form part of the Education Department.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* In certain provinces it is under the Education Department and in certain others it is financed by the Education Department but controlled by the Public Health Department.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether the work of the medical department does not involve the question of public health of the country.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* The two things are different. One is preventive and the other is curative.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether there is any objection in transferring the Medical Department to the Public Health Department.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* There is objection.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know the reason.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* One is purely preventive and the other is curative as I have already stated.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Does not the Medical Department look to the public health of Cochin.

Mr. President: In that sense many departments deal with the public health of Cochin, including the Food Department.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* With reference to (f) it is stated that Government have no information. Four miles away from here is British Cochin and it is wonderful that the Government of Cochin have no information about a thing which has taken place there.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I am sorry Sir. I will correct myself. I have written to the Madras Government and I have not received the information so far.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. President: To answer that question, will take a long time. There are eleven provinces in India.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether the Hon'ble Member is aware of the practice prevailing in Travancore regarding medical inspection.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Not fully.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know the year in which the bifurcation was effected.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* In 1108.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know how the report of the medical inspection staff comes under the administration report of the Medical Department.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I said that the bifurcation of the Public Health Department from the Medical Department took place in 1108.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Should not the report on the medical inspection staff be incorporated into the report on the Public Health Department.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* That was only bifurcated this year.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* May I know whether any benefit is derived by the students on account of this inspection.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Certainly. The importance of this matter is so great that the Government of India have appointed a very big committee in Delhi to go into the matter. Recent examination showed a tremendous amount of illness which might have been averted if they had been examined in their school days and they emphasise the importance of this more and more.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Is there any difference in pay between the Medical Inspector and the Assistant Surgeon.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Madical Officer):* No difference.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In the light of the correction that has now been made by the Hon'ble Member for Medicine may I take it that the answer to (f) is in the affirmative.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Medical Inspection is going on in various parts of India with greater vigour.

Mr. K. T. Achuthan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* How many doctors are there?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Three.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether the medical inspection in the Madras Presidency has been abolished?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I have written to the Government of Madras. I have not so far received any reply. But on enquiring locally I found in certain areas on account of paucity of hands it has been temporarily suspended.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will the Government be pleased to note that there are many in this House who do not want to abolish this system.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT SCHEME—TRICHUR

41. Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Will Government be pleased to state whether in the time of the previous Diwan, there was any town improvement scheme for Trichur and the work thereunder completed?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There was no definite scheme of Town Improvement for Trichur during the time of the previous Diwan. The Municipality was however, considering the question of surfacing the main roads with concrete, but it was subsequently dropped for want of funds and due to war conditions.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether there was any scheme in regard to the improvement of Thekkinkad Maidan?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* It was not a scheme for improvement. It was just an improvement work. It was completed.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I want to place before the Hon'ble Chair that the whole of the back-page of the question book is left vacant and on the front page as much as two-third is covered by figures which could be printed on one-third of the page. Sir, I refer to the waste of paper in these hard days.

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Women-Ernakulam):* I beg to bring to the notice of the Chair that a few more questions could have been printed on the back page.

Mr. President: I inquired about this and I am told that 15 questions will be answered from tomorrow.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly